

The Muslims of Medieval Italy

Alex Metcalfe

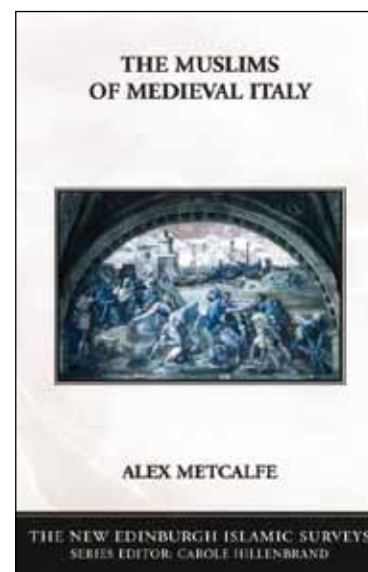
September 2009

Pb 978 0 7486 2008 1 £19.99

352pp 234 x 156 mm

20 b&w illustrations

Hb 978 0 7486 2007 4 £60.00



A general historical introduction to the Muslims of Medieval Italy which addresses social, religious, administrative, political, cultural, artistic and intellectual questions

Description

This significant new work focuses on the formation and disintegration of Arab-Muslim rule and society in Sicily and south Italy between 800 and 1300 which led to the creation of an enduring Muslim-Christian frontier during the age of the Crusades.

It examines the long and short-term impact of Islamic authority and culture on these regions and how they later fell into the hands of European rulers, explaining how the Norman conquest of Sicily came to import radically different dynamics to the central Mediterranean. The change of ruling elites left a majority Muslim population under Christian rule, but the Sicilian kings also adopted and adapted political ideologies from south Mediterranean regimes while absorbing cultural influences from the diverse peoples over whom they ruled.

This work provides an engaging, expert and wide-ranging introduction to the subject and offers fresh and clear insights into the politico-religious, socio-economic and cultural evolution of Europe and the Islamic world.

Key Features

- An authoritative new book in a field where very little has yet been written
- Explores the formation of lasting Muslim-Christian frontiers in medieval Europe
- Covers issues including Muslim-Christian relations, conquest, colonisation, conflict and acculturation, and the transmission and exchange of ideas from east to west
- A concise handbook suitable for a range of readers from the interested public and students to university researchers

Selling Points

- There is no survey of Muslims in Italy currently available
- A concise handbook for studies of Islamic Sicily
- Sits well with Watt's History of Islamic Spain (NEIS)
- Includes 20 b&w illustrations

The Author

Alex Metcalfe is a Lecturer in History at Lancaster University. He is the author of *Muslims and Christians in Norman Sicily* (Routledge-Curzon, 2003).

Series

The New Edinburgh Islamic Surveys

Readership

Undergraduates and MA students in Islamic Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Medieval History and Italian Studies.

Also Available:

A History of Islamic Spain

W. Montgomery Watt & Pierre Cachia

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Islamic Studies

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